

1850 1900

WALKERTON

PAST AND  
PRESENT

PRINTED AT *BRUCE HERALD* WALKERTON. ONT.

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Walkerton

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1850 TO 1900.



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*THE NEW TOWN HALL.*

## THE TOWN OF WALKERTON.

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THE county seat of Bruce, and is situated within the Township of Brant, and on either side, but chiefly on the left bank, of the Saugeen, which at this point runs winding through a pleasant and picturesque valley, formed by a "bottom" of varying width, from the outer edges of which the surface rises, by gentle ascent toward the south-west, till at the average distance of nearly a mile it attains the general level of the surrounding country; while the north-eastern boundary of the valley is formed by an abrupt "break" and almost precipitous ascent, the general lines of which are broken by here and there a gulch, originally a water-course, at irregular intervals, these forming by their presence easy modes of communication with the outside country, and, in their intervals, some of the finest building sites imaginable, the commanding positions of which have been utilized and beautified by the erection of elegant private residences.

The history of the early settlement and subsequent growth of the place is identical with that of a score or more of others—some of which almost rival it in size and extent—in that part of the western peninsula chiefly covered by Bruce County. The first actual settler within its present limits, and the real founder of the place as well, was Joseph Walker, who settled on the lot where Vogan's large mills stand, on the 12th May, 1850. He at once built a mill here on the site of the present grist and flouring mill; and being the first not only in the township, but in a large extent of country surrounding it on every side, this enterprise formed the nucleus of a village whose development was immediate, continuous and rapid. John B. Lundy was the second settler in the place, very soon after Mr. Walker, and kept a



*Court House.*

little tavern here. He was from Cobourg, Northumberland County, and was a large property owner in this part of the county. The late John Valentine, afterwards of Paisley, kept the first store in the place, and it was managed by Malcolm McLean, the ex-Mayor and present postmaster. The original load of goods with which this store was opened out was brought on an ox-cart from Toronto via Hamilton, by Robert Clement, a son of one of the very first settlers in Brant; and it required eight days to make the journey from Hamilton, the greater part of the road lying through the forest.

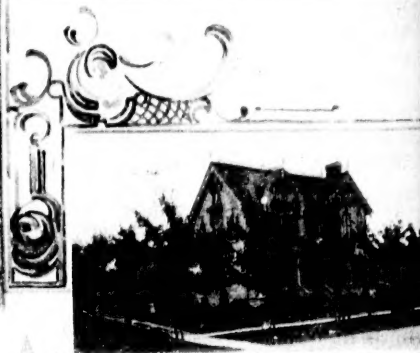
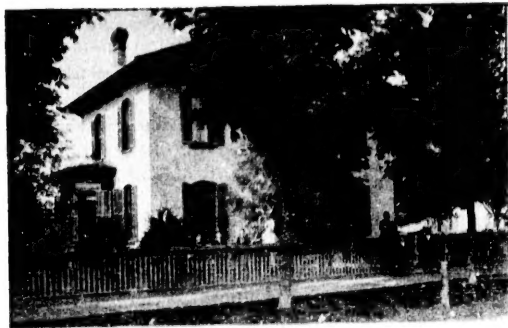
It is not necessary to detail the many little incidents forming part of Walkerton's early history. By common consent, it came to be called after its founder from the time it was nothing more than a collection of log huts nestled in the forest, and the name—than which, under the circumstances, none could be more appropriate—clung and still clings to it through the many transpositions and transformations which have resulted in making it the municipal and political metropolis of this large and magnificent county.

Walkerton was never an incorporated village, but was taken from the Township of Brant and erected into a town by special legislation—the General Act requiring a population of 3,000, whereas its population at the time was 994, and to include this number an area of some 1,400 acres was covered, which has since been increased to 1,500, in order to extend to the railway depot, the nature of the country preventing its near approach to the centre of the place. The town was "proclaimed" immediately after the passage of the Act of Incorporation, at the beginning of the legislative session of 1871, and the first meeting of the new Municipal Council was held March 17th ensuing. Joseph Walker, the founder of the settlement, was chosen first Mayor; Wm. McVicar, first Reeve; and Messrs. Stephen Noxon, David Moore, Hugh Todd, William Shannon, Jas. E. Davis, Wm. Smith, Moses Stewart, Louis Wisser and Paul Ross, Councillors. Walter Langmuir Watt was the first Clerk and Treasurer, and John



*THE BEND.*

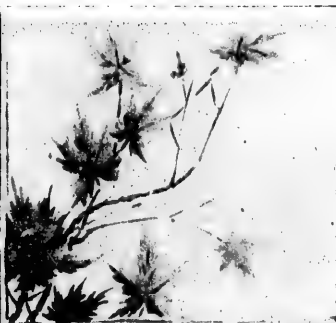




Blair the first Collector. The chief municipal offices have been filled since incorporation as follows:— Paul Ross was Mayor in 1872; James G. Cooper, 1873-4; A. Shaw, 1875; A. Sproat, 1876; Paul Ross, 1877-8; Malcolm McLean, 1879; H. P. O'Connor, 1880-1; David Moore, 1882; A. B. Klein, 1883-4; Andrew McLean, 1885; C. W. Stovel, 1886-7; R. E. Truax, 1888-9; David Robertson, 1890-1; William Richardson, 1892-3; Hugh Birss, 1894-5; John Standish, 1896; A. Menzies, 1897-8; M. Stalker, M.D., 1899-1900. The first Deputy-Reeve was E. McDonald in 1878.

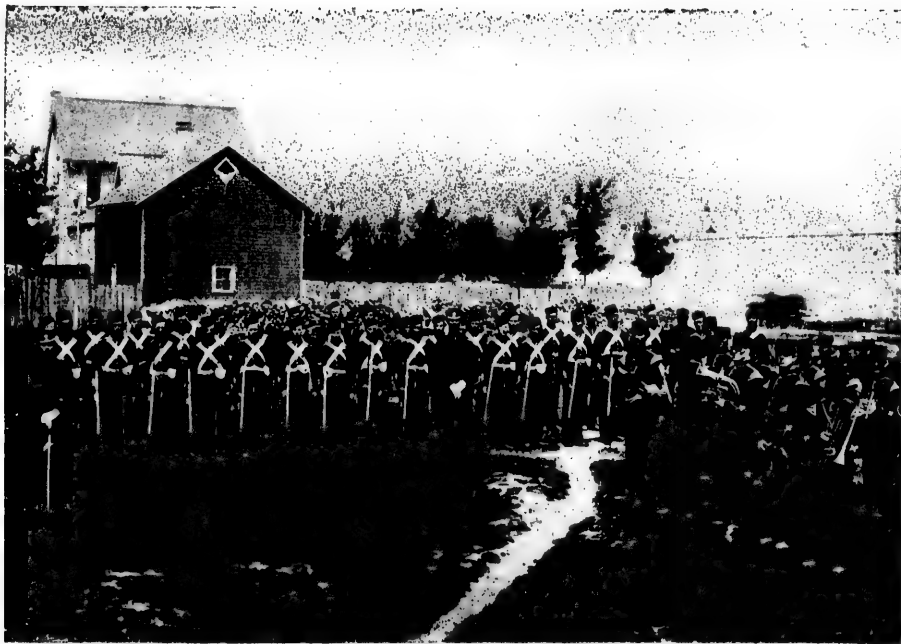
The town has grown to be a fine manufacturing, business and educational centre. The American Rattan Co., The Sieling Furniture Co., Rife's clothing factory, R. Truax & Co., and others, each employ a large number of hands. The mercantile establishments of the town have long been noted as the finest in the country north of Toronto. The late Thos. Whitehead developed a business that equalled a city departmental store. A splendid system of education was early established, and has since held its ground in the front ranks of the province. Its High School is especially noted for excellence.

The press is fully and ably represented in the municipal capital by three widely circulated and well conducted weekly newspapers. The Bruce Herald, a Conservative newspaper, is the oldest; established in 1861 by Mr. Cox. After him came Mr. Wm. Brown, at present of Vancouver, B. C., then Kribbs & Wesley, and subsequently Mr. W. R. Telford for many years Principal of the Walkerton Public School. L. H. McNamara, the present proprietor, assumed the management of the paper in August 1899. The Telescope was established in 1869, and Die Glocke, a German newspaper, was also started in 1869, by John Klein, who in 1875 sold out to Eby & Rittinger, and in 1878 Mr. Rittinger purchased Mr. Eby's interests, by whom it has since been conducted.





*AN OLD VIEW OF WALKERTON.*



*No. 5, 32nd Battalion, called out for active service in 1885.*



*ANOTHER OLD VIEW OF DURHAM STREET.*

*TOWN COUNCIL, 1900.*



*A. Menzies,  
H. Clark,*

*N. W. Doonan,  
Mayor Stalker,  
C. W. Cryderman,*

*John Arscott  
S. H. McKay.*



*NEW POST OFFICE*



*OLD POST OFFICE*





*Scenes on the Saugeen.*

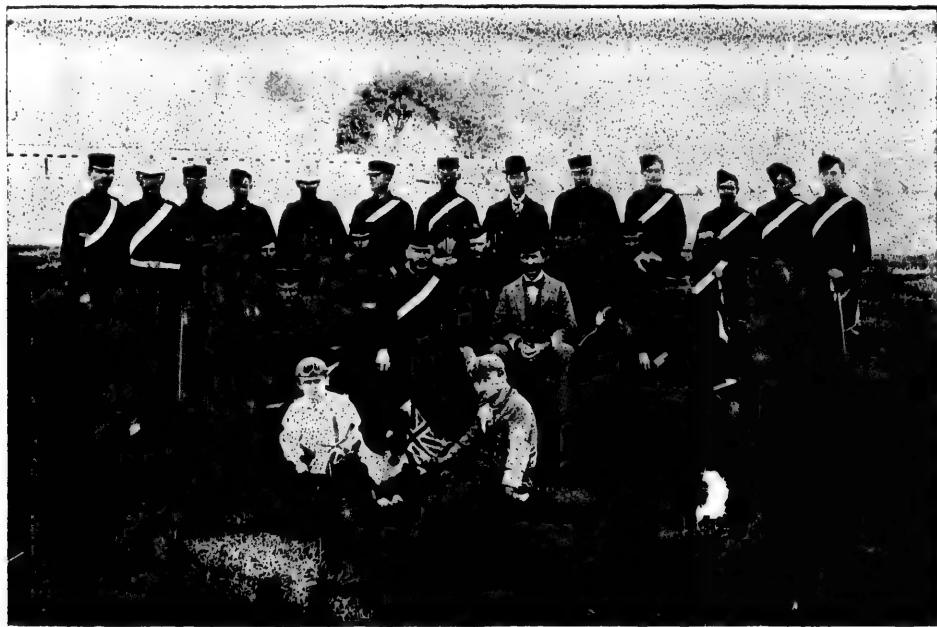
LACROSSE CLUB OF 1883.



J. Teasdale, J. Addison, Geo. Gibbon, Mal. McLean, W. Hosie, Billy Polson  
Joe Reichenbach, Jack Polson, Jim Wright, Alf Graham,  
Charlie McNamara, Joe Hartley,  
Jack McNamara.



*ONE OF THE OLD BOYS.*



*Officers of the 32nd Battalion, camped at Walkerton, June 1898.*



ANOTHER OLD BOY.

# A DIRECTORY OF BRUCE COUNTY

Published in 1867, contains the names given below :

Anderson Jonah, carpenter.  
Anderson Matthew, carpenter.  
Bacon Henry, miller.  
Barnett William, carpenter.  
Benson James, conveyancer, etc.  
Bill Thomas, lime burner.  
Blair James, founder and merchant.  
Boulton James, laborer.  
Brown Wm., editor Bruce Herald.  
Bruce John, merchant.  
Byrnes Valentine, millwright.  
Carter William, brickmaker.  
Chambers John, teacher.  
Cochrane Andrew, shoemaker.  
Collins Wm., clerk 8th Div. Court.  
Couch Matthew, mason.  
Cowie Horton, merchant.  
Creighton William, shoemaker.  
Davidson Hugh, cabinet & druggist  
Davis James F., grocer.  
Flanagan John, laborer.  
Flett James, shoemaker.  
Fleuty James, printer.  
Forsythe George, moulder.  
Fraser William, attorney, etc.  
Gammond Richard, painter.  
Geary Richard, cabinetmaker.  
Gunn William, deputy clerk of the  
Crown and Pleas, and clerk of the  
County Court.  
Griffith James, innkeeper.  
Hargreaves James, carpenter.  
Hargreaves Mrs., milliner.  
Hartley Joseph, bailiff 8th Division  
Court.  
Hartley Hargreaves, gentleman.

Hartley James, gentleman.  
Hawkins William, P. L. surveyor.  
Healy E. A., bailiff 8th Div. Court.  
Heffernan Patrick, tailor.  
Higgins Freeman, cooper.  
Hill James, innkeeper.  
Hopkins R. E., saddler.  
Hunter John, clerk.  
Hutton James, laborer.  
Huyck Caleb, laborer.  
Herney Francis, laborer.  
Jamieson Joshua, jr., township clerk  
and tinsmith.  
Jamieson Joshua, sr., gentleman.  
Jones Samuel, carpenter.  
Kingshott James, laborer.  
Kirkpatrick H., barrister, etc.  
Limerick Frederick, laborer.  
Locke C., photographer.  
Lockheart James, wagonmaker.  
McCarter Alexander, blacksmith.  
McGowan A., merchant.  
McIntosh A. St. L., conveyancer, etc.  
McLean Andrew, saddler.  
McLean Malcolm, postmaster, etc.  
McVicar Archibald, coroner, etc.  
McVicar William, hotel.  
Moffatt R. C., Minister C. P. Church.  
Moore David, merchant.  
Mordon David, merchant.  
Mordon Mrs., milliner.  
Morrison James, teamster.  
Nelson Simon, painter.  
Oliver James, plasterer, etc.  
Paterson John F., barrister.  
Ross, D. W., Crown Attorney.

Richardson William, butcher.  
Scott W. P., M. D.  
Scott, William, carpenter.  
Seed E., watchmaker.  
Shannon William, saddler.  
Shaw Alexander, barrister.  
Sherwood George, carpenter.  
Smith John, laborer.  
Smith John L., carpenter.  
Stevens Charles, carpenter.  
Stevens Charles B., blacksmith.  
Stovell C. W., pumpmaker.  
Street Timothy, gentleman.  
Strickland John, contractor.  
Sutherland R., barrister.  
Sutton William, sheriff.  
Tamlyn John, butcher.  
Taylor Thomas, teamster.  
Thompson Alexander, bricklayer.  
Thompson Andrew, tanner.  
Usher H. M. D.  
Walker James, mason.  
Walker Joseph, gentleman.  
Walker William, gentleman.  
Wallace Simon, carpenter.  
Warren Thos., veterinary surgeon.  
Waterson James, prop. Waterson's  
hotel.  
Whyte Alexander, teamster.  
Willoughby Walter, treasurer of the  
township of Brant.  
Wilson James A., merchant.  
Wilson William, painter.  
Wisser Louis, tailor.  
Wright Samuel, brickmaker.  
Young Thomas, carpenter.

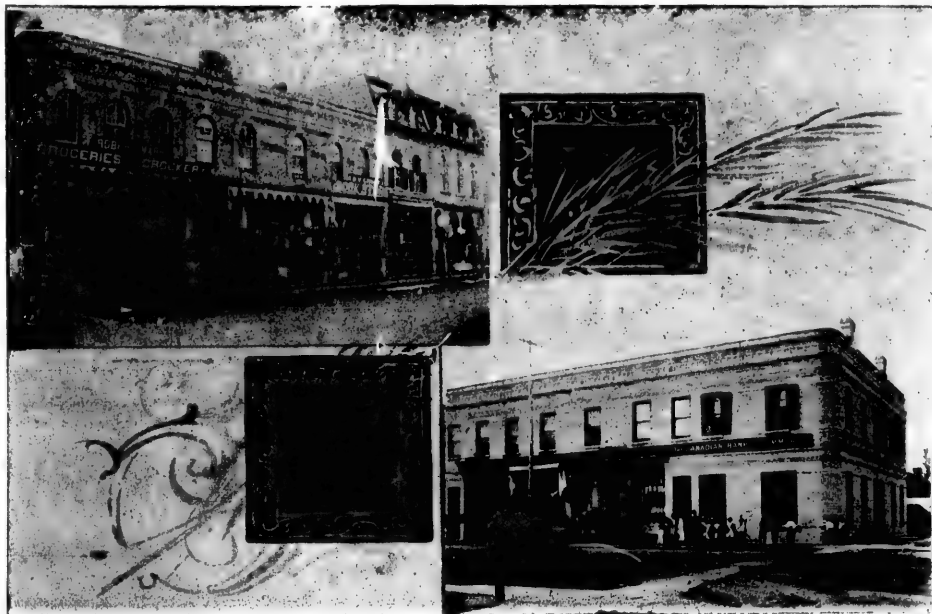
Y

h.

yer.

geon.  
son's

of the



*CIRCULATION 2,000.*

*Established 1861.*

*The oldest paper in  
Bruce County,*

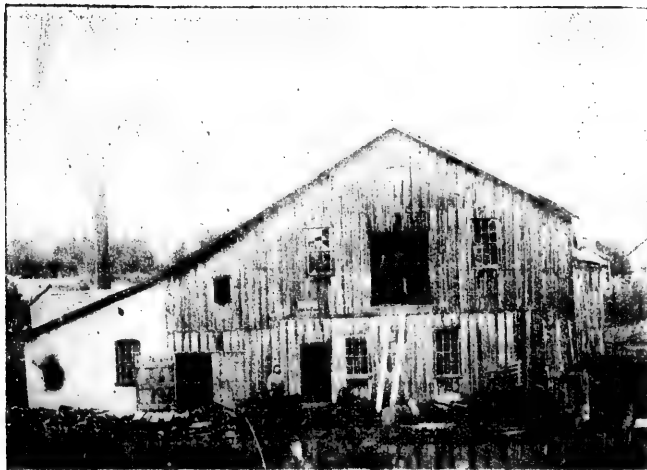
# *THE BRUCE HERALD*

*L. H. McNamara, Proprietor.*

*A Conservative  
Newspaper.*

*Best plant in the  
County.*





*MR. JOHN ARSCOTT'S TANNERY.*

*"Right is Right."*



*"If you have them from us they're right."*

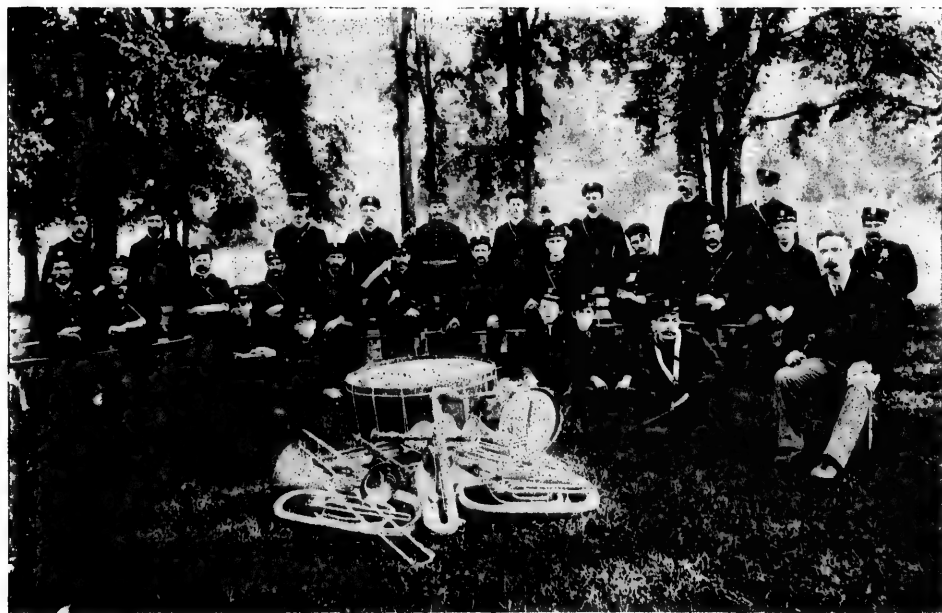


*CAMPING ON THE SAUGEEN.*

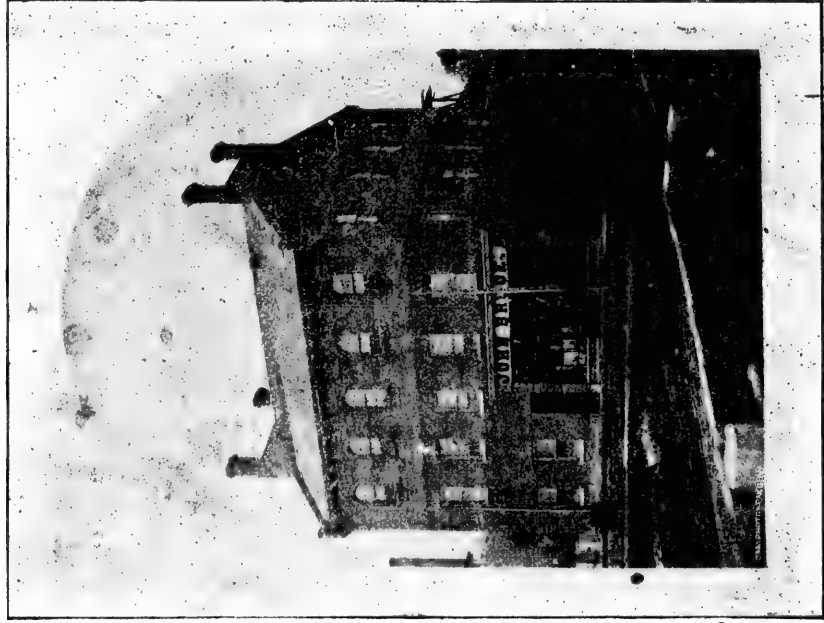




*Store and Residence erected by Mr. John Bruce in 1854.*



*THE TRUAX BAND.*



*Brick block erected by Mr. John Bruce in 1865. Burned in  
the fire of 1877.*





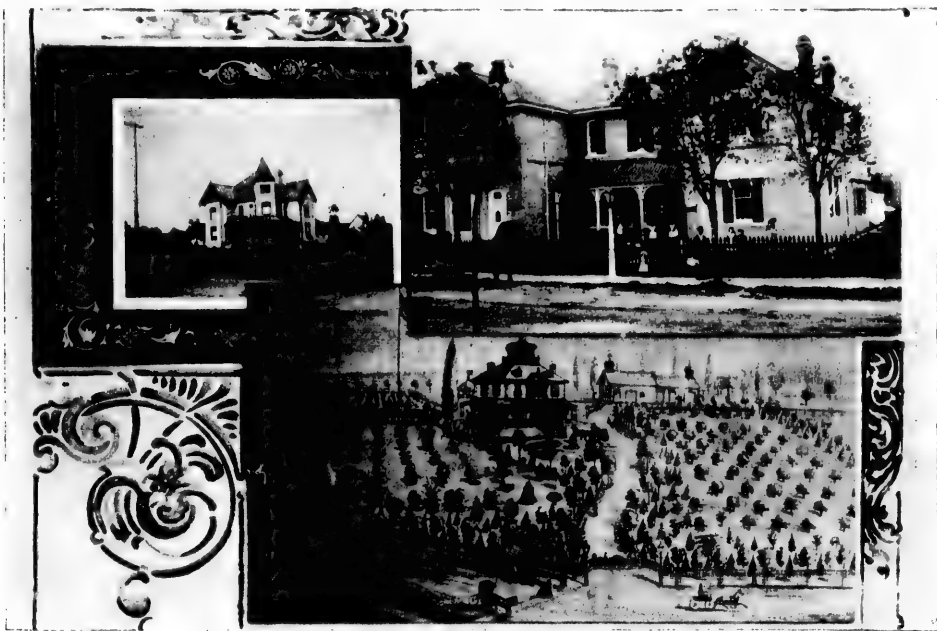


DAVID MOORE'S STORE.





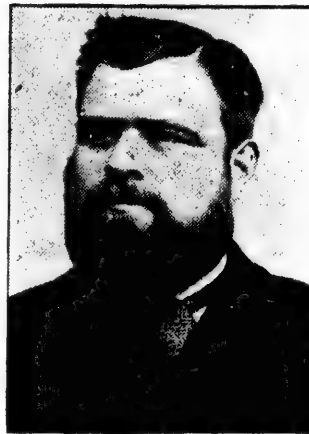
*HOUSE OF REFUGE.*





*The late Col. Sproat, first manager  
Merchants Bank and first  
County Treasurer.*

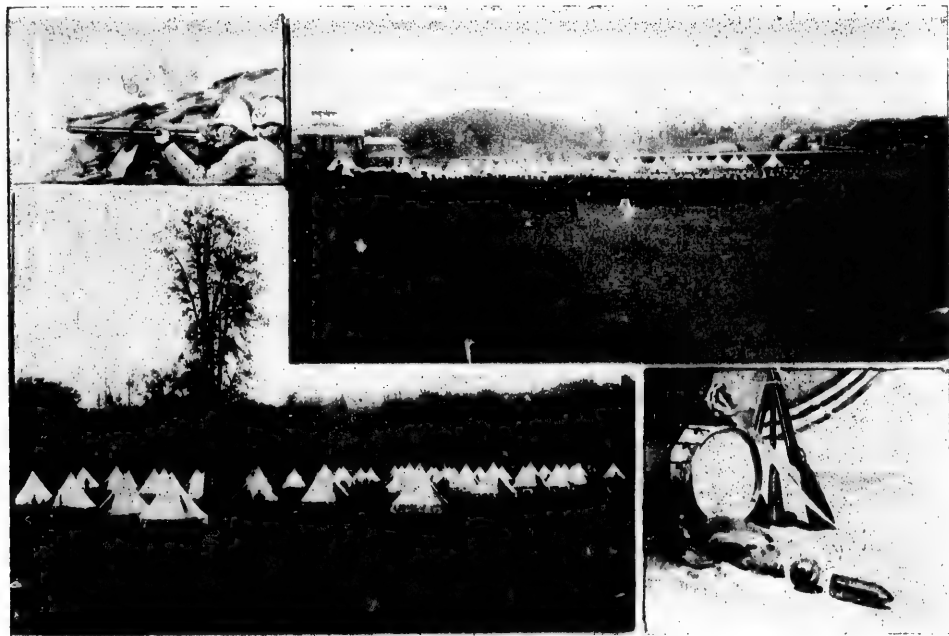
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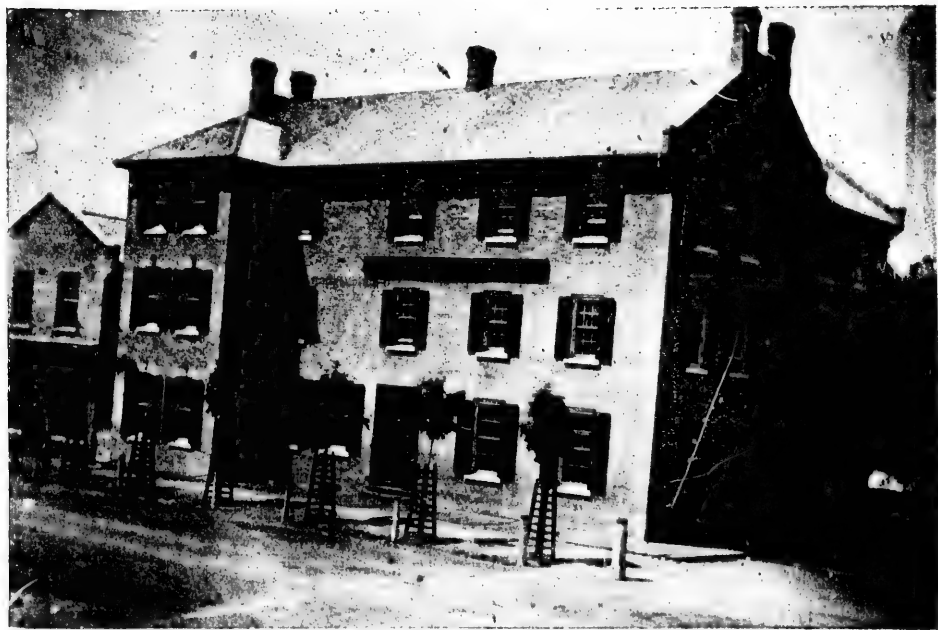
*The late Thos. Whitehead.*



*McVICAR'S HOTEL BURNED IN 1877.*



*32nd. Battalion at Walkerton, June 1878.*



*THE HARTLEY HOUSE.*





*WALKERTON FIFE AND DRUM BAND.*



*THE LATE GEORGE GOULD*  
*County and Town Clerk.*



*THE LATE C. S. HARRIS*

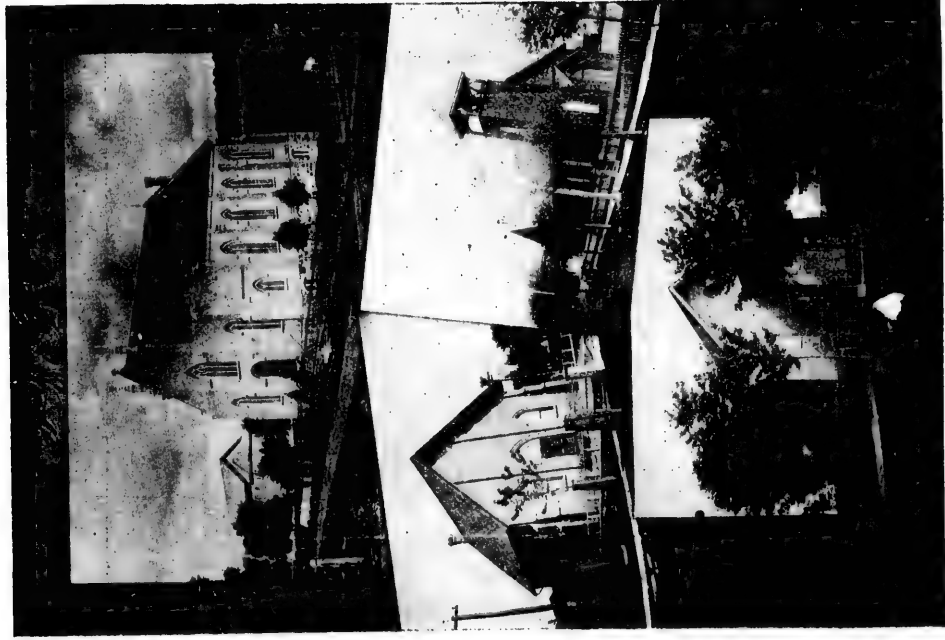


*THE OLD OATMEAL MILL*

RRIS

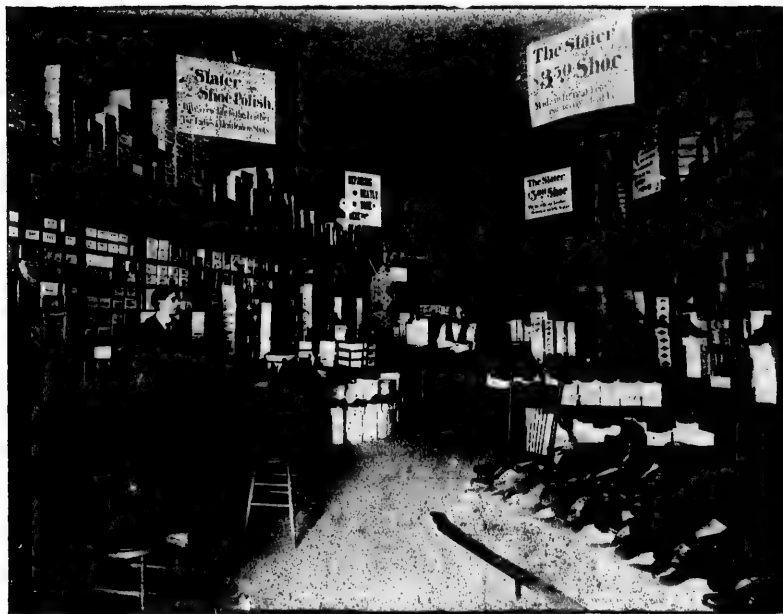


*THE KILMER BRICK YARD.*



LUTHERAN CHURCH      KNOX CHURCH      CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
DISCIPLES CHURCH

*THE PEOPLE'S SHOE STORE.*



*RAMSEY,*

*THE SHOEMAN.*



*The Late Capt. William Moffatt.*



*Judge Klein,  
David Robertson, Com. Kingsmill, R.N.*







(Photo by TRUSSLER.)

*Prescriptions Carefully Prepared.*



*P. M. Gordon's Store on Lady:mith Day.*



*BAPTIST CHURCH*

*METHODIST CHURCH*

*THE LEADING JEWELLER.*

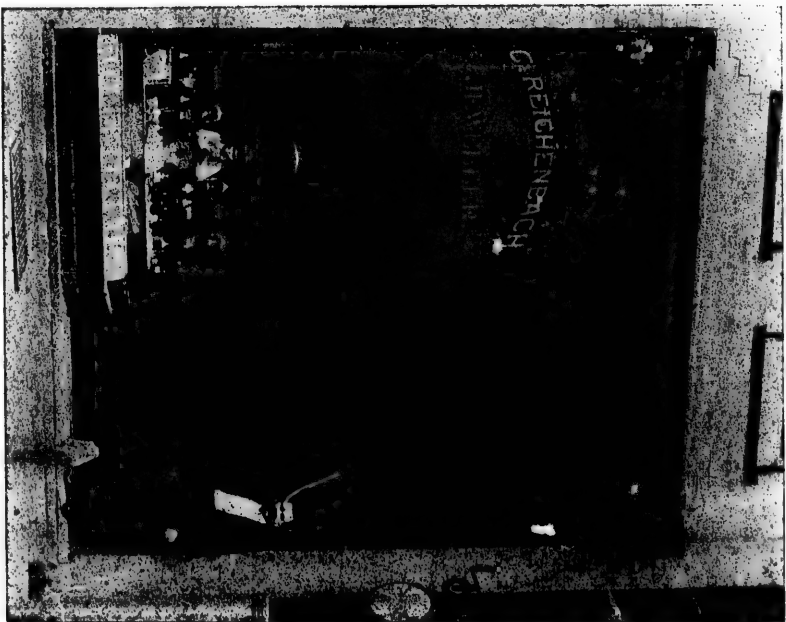


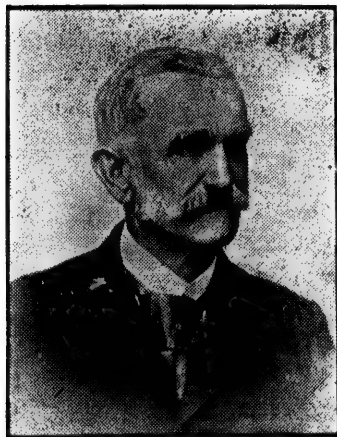
*C. A. FOX,*

*WALKERTON.*



( Photo by *TRUSSLER* . )

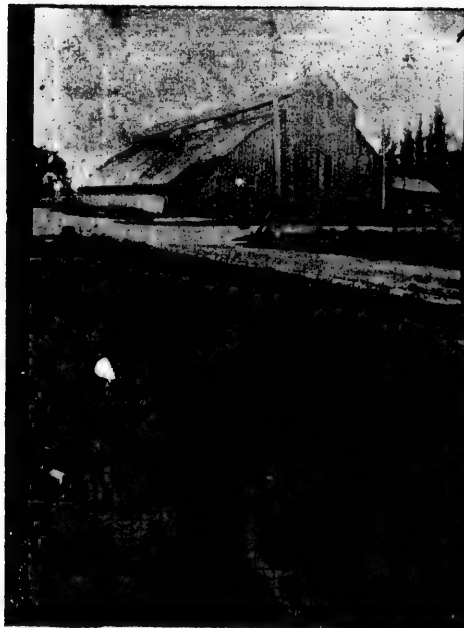




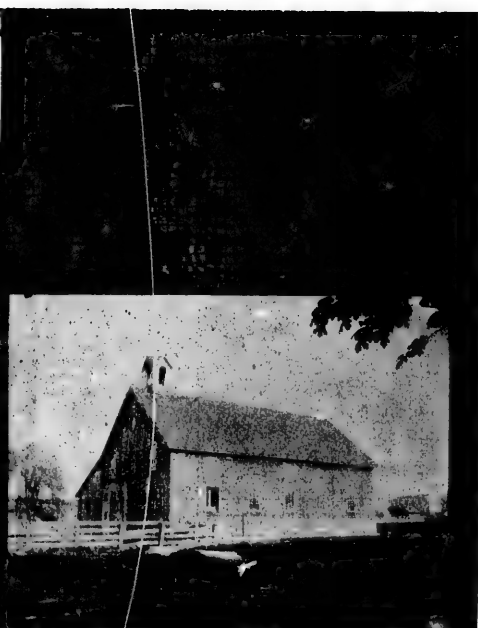
*The Late G. W. Stovel.*



*An Old View Cor. Durham and Jackson. The late  
Louis Wisser's Shop.*



*THE OLD DRILL SHED*



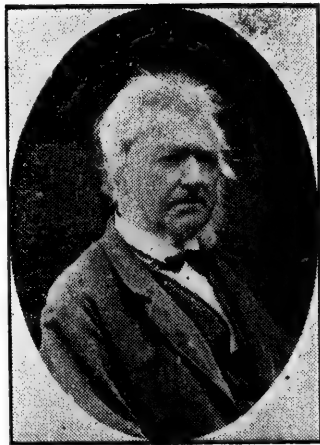
*THE OLD SCHOOL*





*Mrs. Jasper, the first white woman  
in Walkerton.*

WALKERTON



*Joseph Walker, after whom the  
town was named.*



*Dr. J. J. Wisser*

*R. E. Richardson*

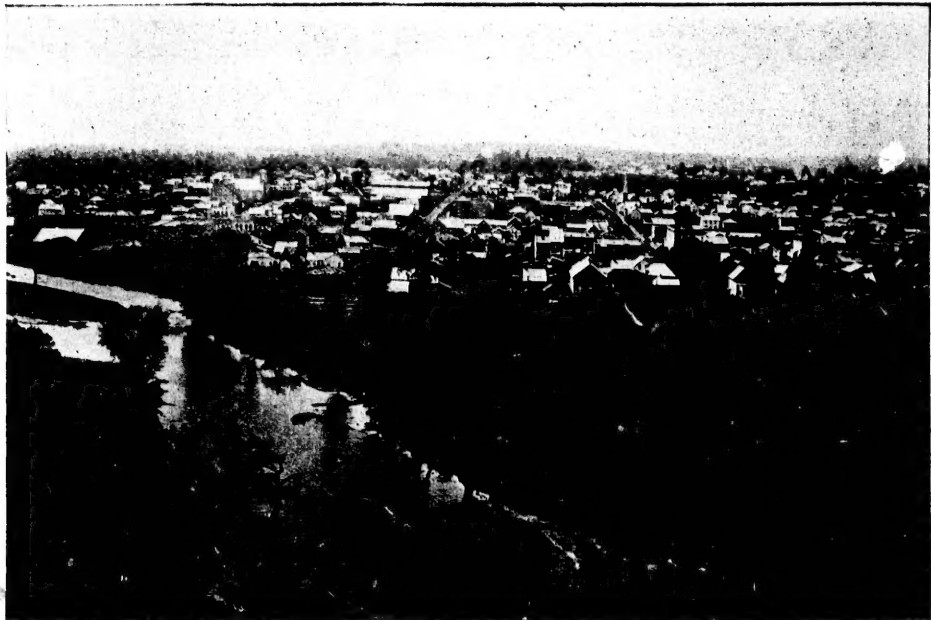
*Arthur Collins*

*W. G. Collins, (skip)*

*Winners of Owen Sound Bonspiel, Feb., 1900.*



*WALKERTON IN SEPTEMBER 1875.*



A LATER VIEW.

*Thos. J. Libbey*



